

REMARKS

This Amendment is intended to fully respond to the Examiner's first Office Action dated July 26, 2005, in which claim 1 was rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,654,881 and claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,496,839. In response, terminal disclaimers to each of these patents are filed herewith. Claim 1 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as containing a term lacking antecedent basis and, in response to this rejection, is hereby amended accordingly.

This Amendment is responsive to all points raised in the Office Action and, as such claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance. In addition, Applicant hereby submits claims 2-18 into the present application. Each of claims 2-18 depend from claim 1 and thus, are also believed in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Because the total number of claims remains below 20, no fees are due for the submission of this Amendment. Further, this Amendment is being filed on October 26, 2005 and, thus, no extension fees 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) are believed due either. However, if this is not the case, please charge any such extension fees to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,



David D. Wier, Reg. No. 48,229
Merchant & Gould P.C.
PO Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
303.357.1647

Dated: October 26, 2005

